

Indiana Rural Development Council

2001 Accomplishments

2001 First Quarter:

IRDC Task Force Work:

- Indiana Housing Assistance Review Team met with four communities: Daviess Co. Chamber of Commerce; Genesis Foundations (Porter Co.); North Vernon Senior Housing; and Rural Development Consulting & Investment, Inc. (Noble Co.).
- Finalized and delivered Community Visitation Report to the Town of Grabill (Allen Co.)
- Solicited and selected 5 communities for participation in this year's Community Visitation Program
- Prepared and Distributed "Rural Partners", IRDC's quarterly newsletter, to IRDC members
- Facilitated Environmental Infrastructure Working Group meetings with two communities: Carthage and Michigantown. Initiated Project Tracking sheet for EIWG partners to track project status and assistance received.
- Presented IRDC's "Role Playing" exercise to Shelby County Leadership Program.
- Determined agenda for 2002 NRDP Conference in French Lick.

Other Activities:

- Provided testimony in front of the Senate Energy and Economic Development Committee on SB160 – Development of a Rural Economic Development Strategy.
- Attended Town of Holland's Council meeting to discuss funding for water system expansion and community visitation program.
- Attended Orange Township Water Board meeting to discuss potential funding sources for installation of a rural water system. Sen. Jackman and Rep. Hoffman were in attendance at this meeting.

2001 Second Quarter:

IRDC Task Force Work:

- Presented IRDC's "Role Playing" exercise to Spencer County Leadership Program.
- Finalized and delivered Community Visitation Report to the Town of Bloomingdale (Parke Co.)
- Prepared and Distributed "Rural Partners", IRDC's quarterly newsletter, to IRDC members
- Presented Grabill's Community Visitation successes at New Allen Alliance meeting.
- Facilitated Environmental Infrastructure Working Group meetings with four communities: Knightstown, Alamo, Franklin County Regional Water District and St. Leon
- Presented Community Visitation Program outline and expectations at public meetings in five communities.
- Coordinated and hosted the Community Visitation to the Town of Stinesville (Monroe Co.)
- Filmed and produced promotional video for the 2002 NRDP Conference in French Lick with Indiana Farm Bureau.
- Coordinated and hosted the Community Visitation to the City of Mitchell (Lawrence Co.)
- Attended groundbreaking for new sewer system for the Town of Glenwood (Rush Co.), a former EIWG participant.

Other Activities:

- Participated in the National Rural Development Partnership's Annual Policy Conference in Washington DC.
- Facilitated retreat of the Dale Chamber of Commerce.
- Facilitated Economic Development meeting in Warren County
- Presented potential funding sources for installation of sanitary sewers at organizational meeting in Community of Mexico (Miami Co.).
- Provided the keynote address for the Hope Chamber of Commerce annual meeting.
- Facilitated State Line Road improvements meeting of Union City, Indiana and Union City, Ohio leaders
- Finalized information exchange with the Internal Revenue Service and obtained 501-c-3 non-profit status for Indiana Rural Development Council, Inc.
- General Assembly approved and Governor Signed SEA 160 – Rural Economic Development Strategy for Indiana.
- Ensured IRDC's involvement and influence on Indiana's recommendations for the 2002 Farm Bill.
- Presented potential funding sources for installation of sanitary sewers at Wabash County Commissioners' meeting.
- Presented work of the IRDC to the National Rural Development Council in Washington, DC
- Participated in the Elkhart County Land Use Day.
- Facilitated Orange County Leadership program's planning retreat.
- Chaired SIRD's Agricultural Development task force, which received funding from USDA for a feasibility study of a produce marketing facility in southeast Indiana.

2001 Third Quarter:

IRDC Task Force Work:

- Facilitated Environmental Infrastructure Working Group meetings with nine communities: Heaton Lake (Elkhart Co.); Dugger; Centerville; Winona Lake; Waldron Conservancy District (Shelby Co.); Middletown; Brook; Wolcottville and Milan
- Selected eight finalists and one alternate Mobile Workshops to be offered during the 2002 NRDP Conference in French Lick.
- Initiated Project Tracking sheet for IHART partners to track project status and assistance requested.
- Finalized the Entertainment Committee's selections for the 2002 NRDP Conference in French Lick.
- Coordinated and hosted the Community Visitation to the City of Loogootee (Martin Co.)
- Coordinated preliminary visit of Washington DC staff for the 2002 NRDP's Leadership Conference in French Lick.
- Prepared and Distributed "Rural Partners", IRDC's quarterly newsletter, to IRDC members
- Finalized and delivered Community Visitation Report to the Town of Stinesville (Monroe Co.) and the City of Mitchell (Lawrence Co.)
- Participated in the Ultimate Farmland Preservation Tour of east coast land use practices.
- Coordinated and hosted the Community Visitation to the Town of Albion (Noble Co.)
- Presented IRDC's "Role Playing" exercise at IACT's Annual Convention.

Other Activities:

- Helped finalize the formation of the Indiana Brownfields Association, an independent association for professionals involved in brownfields projects.
- Participated on the Planning Team that hosted the National Rural Development Partnership's Leadership Conference in Duluth, MN.

- Finalized arrangements for IRDC's Annual Leadership Conference in Lebanon.
- Facilitated Economic Development meeting in Steuben County

2001 Fourth Quarter:

IRDC Task Force Work:

- Coordinated and hosted the Community Visitation to the Town of Crothersville (Jackson Co.), and delivered the 31-page report of recommended action steps.
- Determined Publicity Plan in preparation of the 2002 NRDP Conference in French Lick.
- Indiana Housing Assistance Review Team met with four communities: Desert Rose Foundation's Transitional Housing for Domestic Abuse Victims (Martin Co.); Town of Elnora's Elderly and Disabled Housing Development (Daviess Co.); and Spring Valley Shelter's Transitional Housing for Domestic Abuse Victims (Porter Co.).
- Introduced Community Visitation Program to Harrison County Planning Team for possible county-wide visit next year
- Developed action plan and timeline for development of the Rural Economic Development Strategy.
- Increased Environmental Infrastructure Working Group to include the Indiana Rural Water Association and presented the program to approximately 120 rural utility supervisors at the IRWA's Annual Meeting. Facilitated EIWG meeting with one community: Elkhart County/Town of Middlebury
- Prepared and distributed "Rural Partners", IRDC's quarterly newsletter, to IRDC members
- Finalized and distributed reports to the Town of Albion and the City of Loogootee to complete the Community Visitation Programs.
- Leadership Development Task Force initiated contact to collaborate with the Indiana Leadership Association.

Other Activities:

- Finalized IRDC's 2002 Work Plan for approval by Governing Board
- Partnered with SIRDP, Inc. to propose project to the Tobacco Farmers' and Rural Community Impact Fund Advisory Board. Board preliminarily approved \$90,000 to IRDC, Inc. for projects in tobacco-affected communities.
- Provided the keynote address on the IRDC's Community Visitation Program for SIRDP's annual symposium.
- Facilitate a planning retreat for the Harrison County Community Foundation's Board of Directors.
- Hosted IRDC's 2001 Annual Leadership Conference in Lebanon, with registration topping 214
- Presented IRDC's 2002 Work Plan to USDA Credit Specialist meeting